

Governor Noem

South Dakota Hot Topics

- The Air Force continues to investigate the PFCs (PFAS/PFOA) at Ellsworth AFB. The highest priority currently is defining where wells or other drinking water may be impacted and providing alternate water supplies. The plume extends off base to an extent the Air Force is trying to define. Other work includes initial delineation of contaminated soil areas and a treatability study to see if PFC-contaminated soils can be stabilized or encapsulated.
- EPA finalized regulatory changes to allow gasoline blended with up to 15 percent ethanol to take advantage of the 1-psi Reid Vapor Pressure waiver that currently applies to E10 during summer months. (SD is the sixth largest producer of ethanol)
- The January 2020 ruling by the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals struck down three EPA small refinery exemptions from meeting the Renewable Fuel Standard. EPA was challenged by the Renewable Fuels Association, National Corn Growers Association, American Coalition for Ethanol and the National Farmers Union.
- EPA Region 8 plans to issue final UIC Class III and V area permits for the proposed Dewey Burdock uranium in-situ recovery (ISR) project in August, 2020. Since 2017, the EPA has received extensive public comment and input during tribal consultations on two Underground Injection Control (UIC) draft permits and one associated proposed aquifer exemption for Powertech's proposed Dewey-Burdock uranium ISR site located near Edgemont, South Dakota. The UIC Class III area permit would be for injection wells for the in-situ recovery of uranium. The UIC Class V area permit would be for deep injection wells that will be used to dispose of ISR process waste fluids into the Minnelusa Formation. EPA will also issue a final aquifer exemption decision in connection with the Class III Area Permit to exempt the uranium-bearing portions of the Inyan Kara aquifers.

Governor Noem's Bio

Kristi Noem is a leader consistently challenging the status quo and working hard to make South Dakota stronger for the next generation.

Kristi grew up on a farm and ranch in Hamlin County, South Dakota. From the time she could walk, she worked beside her dad on the ranch and especially enjoyed working with horses and cattle.

In college, Kristi married Bryon Noem, another farm kid from Hamlin County. Together, they have a long history of owning and operating businesses – from running a hunting lodge, to helping manage a family restaurant and other business ventures. Today, Kristi continues to operate a farm and ranch with her family and Bryon owns and operates an insurance agency.

Kristi's common-sense values were quickly noticed in Washington. In her eight years in the nation's capital, Kristi played a key role in writing and passing historic tax cut legislation that put \$2,400 back in the pockets of South Dakota families. Additionally, she successfully helped negotiate two Farm Bills, helped pass legislation to combat human trafficking and helped triple the size of the Black Hills National Cemetery.

Now serving as South Dakota's 33rd governor, Kristi is focused on bringing in South Dakota's next big industry in order to create high-paying technology careers. She is working to strengthen families. She is committed to enhancing education, advancing agriculture, combating the meth epidemic, and bolstering mental health resources. Her approach to the role is simple – be the most connected governor our state has ever had.

Kristi often says that her greatest accomplishment is raising three children who love the Lord, love their family, and know how to work hard. Cassidy recently married Kyle and works in South Dakota as an appraiser. Kennedy graduated from South Dakota State University in 2018 and works in Pierre. Booker is a senior at Hamlin County High School.

Key Priorities:

Governor Noem's key priorities are advancing agriculture, connecting South Dakota (high-speed internet access), equipping our National Guard, leading the way in cybersecurity, enhancing habitat, highlighting foster families – every child deserves a home, battling the meth epidemic, addressing the stigma around mental health and preventing suicide, revitalizing rural South Dakota, making government more transparent and strengthening families.

What she's working on now

Gov. Noem Outlines Lessons Learned from COVID-19 6/8/20

The Protests Served Their Purpose – Now It's Time to Problem Solve 6/5/20

Gov. Noem Activates National Guard to Assist in Sioux Falls 5/31/20

Gov. Noem Signs Executive Order to Give Flexibility in Fight against COVID-19 5/18/20

Gov. Noem to Tribes: Remove all Checkpoints 5/8/20

Gov. Noem Announces "Back to Normal" Plan following COVID-19 Pandemic 4/28/20

Gov. Noem Signs Executive Order to Help South Dakota Pork Producers Impacted by COVID-19 4/20/20

Gov. Noem Announces National Guard Site Locations to Fight COVID-19 4/17/20

Gov. Noem Announces South Dakota will be First State with a Hydroxychloroquine Statewide Clinical Trial to Help Fight COVID-19 4/13/20

A Marathon, Not a Sprint: South Dakota's Fight against COVID-19 4/10/20

Noem Weekly Column: During This Time of Uncertainty, Remember to Reflect 3/27/20

Noem to Hold Media Availability Tomorrow Regarding Coronavirus in South Dakota 3/23/20